ARTICLES TO BE ENQUIRED OF, WITHIN THE DIOCES of DURESME, in the Ordinary Visitation of the Right Reverend Father in God, THOMAS by the Providence of GOD, Lord Bishop of DURESME.

Holden in the xiij. Yeere of the Raigne of our most gracious Soveraigne Lord, CHARLES, by the Grace of God, King of *Great Britaine*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c. in the yeare of our Lord God, 1637.

LONDON,
Imprinted by *Felix Kingston*.
1637.

The Tenor of the Oath to be miniſtred to the Church-wardens and Side-men.

YOu ſhall ſweare, That you, and every of you, ſhall duely conſider, and diligently enquire of all and every of theſe Articles given you in charge; and that all affection, favour, hatred, hope of reward, and gaine, or feare of diſpleaſure, or malice ſet aſide, you ſhall preſent all and every ſuch perſon, of, or within your Pariſh, as hath committed any offence, or made any default mentioned in theſe, or any of theſe Articles; or which are vehemently ſuſpected or defamed of any ſuch offence or default: wherein you ſhall deale uprightly and fully; neither preſenting, nor ſparing to preſent any, contrary to truth: having in this action God before your eyes, with an earneſt zeale to maintaine trueth, and to ſuppreſſe vice, So helpe you God, and the holy Contents of this Booke.

I. Concerning the Ministers.

IN primis, Whether doth your Minister distinctly and reverently say Divine Service upon Sundayes and Holy dates, and other Dayes appointed to be observed by the Booke of Common Prayer, Wednesdayes and Fridayes, and the Eeves of every Sunday and Holy day, at fit and usuall tymes? And doth your Minister duely observe the Orders, Rites, and Ceremonies prescribed in the Booke of Common Prayer, as well in reading publique Prayers and the Letany, as also in administring the Sacraments, solemnization of Matrimony, visiting the sicke, Burying the dead, Churching of women, and all other like Rites and Offices of the Church, in such manner and forme, as in the Booke of Common Prayer is enjoyned? And doth hee reade the Booke of the 39. Canons once yeerely, and weare a Surplice according to the said Canons?

2. Item, whether doth your Minister bid Holy-dayes and Fasting-dayes, as by the Booke of Common Prayer is appointed? And doth he give warning before-hand to the Parishioners, for the receiving of the holy Communion, as the 22. Canon requireth? And whether doth he administer the holy Communion so often, and at such times, as that every Parishioner may receive the same at least thrice in every yeere, whereof once at Easter, as by the Booke of Common Prayer is appointed? And doth your Minister receive the same himselfe on every day that he administreth it to others, and use the words of Institution according to the Booke, at every time that the Bread and Wine is received, accordingly as by the proviso of the 21. Canon is directed? And doth he deliver the Bread and Wine to every Communicant severally? Whether hath he admitted to the holy Communion any offender or schismatike, contrary to the 26. and 27. Constitutions, or received any to the Communion being not of his owne Cure, or put any from the Communion, not being publikely infamous for some notorious crime? Doth he use the signe of the Crosse in Baptisme, or baptize in any Bason, or other vessell, and not in the usuall Font: or admit any Father to be Godfather to his owne Childe, or such who have not received the holy Communion; or bap-

[illegible] baptize any infants in his parish being in danger, having been informed of the weakness of the said Childe: and whether hath the Childe dyed through his default without Baptisme?

3 Item, whether hath your Minister marryed any without a Ring, or without Banes published three severall Sundaies or Holy-daies in time of Divine Service, in the severall Churches or Chappels of their severall abode, according to the Booke of Common Prayer, or in times prohibited, albeit the Banes were thrice published, without a License or Dispensation from the Bishop of the Diocesse, or his Chancellor, first obteined in that behalfe: or not betweene the houres of 8. and 12. in the forenoone, or married in any private house: or if the Parties be under the age of 21. yeares, before their parents or Governors have signified their consent unto him?

4 Item, whether doth he refuse to bury any, which ought to be interred in Christian buriall, or deferre the same longer than he should, or bury any in Christian burial, which by the Constitutions of the Church of England ought not to be so interred?

5 Item, whether the body of any Excommunicate person dying within your Parish hath been buryed by any of your Parishioners disorderly, (your Minister lawfully refusing to bury it) within your Church or Churchyard, or have the body or bodies of any such Excommunicate person or persons been conveyed out of your Parish to be buryed in another Parish, without consent of your Minister, or Ordinary first had and obtained, and what are their severall names and surnames?

6 Item, whether is your Minister a Preacher allowed? If so, then by whom? If not, whether doth he procure some who are lawfully licensed to preach amongst you monethly at the least?

7 Item, whether doth your Minister (being licensed) preach usually according to the Canons, either in his owne Cure, or some other Church or Chappell neere adjoyning, where no Preacher is, and how often hath he been negligent in that behalfe? And doth he preach standing and with his hat off? Or whether doth he or his Curat upon every Sunday, when there is no sermon, reade an Homily, or some part thereof, according as he ought to doe: or in case he be not licensed to preach, doth he take upon him to preach or expound the Scriptures in his owne Cure, or elsewhere? If so, then you are to present the same, the time and place, when and where he did it.

8 Item, whether doth your Minister in his sermons, lectures and other exercises use to pray for the Kings Majesty King Charles, and for our gracious Queene Mary, and all the Royall Progeny, with addition of such stile and Titles as are due to his Highnesse, and exhort the people to obedience to his Majesty, and all his Magistrates in Authority under him: not omitting particular mention of the Bishop of the Diocesse,

according to his Maiesties late Direction in that behalfe?

9 Item, whether is your Minister continually resident upon his Benefice or no? how long time hath he been absent; and in case he be licensed to be absent, whether doth he cause his Cure sufficiently to be supplied according to the Canons? Or in case he hath another Benefice, whether doth he supply his absence by a Curate sufficiently licensed to preach in that Cure, where he himselfe is not resident? Or otherwise in case the smalnesse of the living cannot finde a preaching Minister, doth he preach at both his Benefices usually?

10 Item, whether doth your Minister or Curat serve any more Cures than one? If so, then what other Cure doth he serve, and how farre are they distant: and what stipend is allowed unto him for serving such Cure?

11 Item, whether doth your Minister every Sunday and Holy day, before Evening Prayer, for halfe an houre or more, examine and instruct the Youth and ignorant persons of his Parish, in the Ten Commandements, Articles of the Beleefe, and in the Lords Prayer and the Sacraments, according as it is prescribed in the Catechisme, and set forth in the Booke of Common Prayer, and also strictly enioyned by our late Soveraigne King James of blessed memory, in his directions to the Bishops of each Diocesse?

12 Item, whether doth your Minister in the Rogation dayes goe in perambulation of the circuit of the Parish, saying and using the Prayers and thanksgiving to God, appointed by Law, according to his duty, thanking God for his blessings, if there be plenty on the earth; or otherwise to pray for his grace and favour, if there be a feare of scarcity?

13 Item, whether hath your Minister admitted any woman begotten with child in adultery or fornication, to be Churched without license of the Ordinary?

14 Item, whether hath your Minister, or any other Preacher, baptized children, churched any woman, or ministred the holy Communion in any private house, otherwise than by the Law is allowed?

15 Item, whether doth your Minister being a Preacher, indeavour and labor diligently to reclaime the popish Recusants in his Parish from their errours (if there be any such abiding in your Parish.) Or whether is your Parson, Vicar or Curate over conversant with, or a favourer of Recusants, whereby he is suspected not to be sincere in Religion?

16 Item, whether hath your Minister taken upon him to appoint any publique or private Fasts, Prophecies or Exercises not approved by Law or publique Authority or hath used to meete in any private house or place, with any person or persons, there to consult how to impeach or deprave the Booke of Common Prayer, or the Doctrine or discipline of the Church of England? If so, then you shall present them all.

17 Item, whether hath your Minister staied the publication of any Excommunications or suspensions? or doth he every halfe yeare denounce

nounce in his Parish Church all such of his Parish, as are excommunicated, and persevere therein without seeking to be absolved, or doth be wittingly and willingly keepe company with such as are Excommunicate: And hath he admitted into your Church any person excommunicate, without a Certificate of his absolution from the Ordinary, or other competent Judge?

18 Item, whether doth your Minister carefully looke to the releefe of the poore, and from time to time call upon his Parishioners to give somewhat, as they can spare, to godly and charitable uses, especially when they make their Testaments?

19 Item, whether doth your Minister, or any having taken the holy Orders, being now silenced or suspended, or any other person of your knowledge, or as you have heard, hold any conventicles, or preach in any place, or use any other forme of divine service than is appointed in the booke of common prayer? If so, then you are to present their names, and with whom.

20 Item, whether is your Curate licensed to serve by the Bishop of this Diocesse, or by any other, and by whom?

21 Item, whether doth your Minister use such decency and comelinesse in his apparell, as by the 47. Canon is enioyned: and is he of sober behaviour, and one that doth not use such bodily labour, as is not seemely for his Function and Calling?

22 Item, whether is your Minister noted or defamed to have obtained his Benefice or his Orders by Simony, or any other way defamed to be a Symoniacall person, or any way noted to be a Schismaticke or Schismatically affected, or reputed to be an incontinent person, or to table or lodge any such in his house: or is he a frequenter of Taverns, Innes, Alehouses, or any place suspected for ill rule: or doth he keepe any such ill orders in his owne house: or is he a common drunkard, a common gamester, or a player at dice, a swearer, or one that applieth not his study, or is otherwise offensive and scandalous to his function or Ministery?

23 Item, whether are there any Lectures or Exercises used within your Parish Church? If so, then whether doe the said Lecturer or Lecturers, refuse to conforme themselves to the Lawes and Ordinances of the Church of England, and especially to the late instructions for Lectures published by his sacred Majesty King Charles, and directed to the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury his Grace, and accordingly by his Grace, sent to every Diocesse of his Graces Province. Anno Dom. 1629. And so by the Lord Bishop of this Diocesse, commanded to be published thorow this Diocesse by his Lordships Archdeacons, at their severall Visitations after Easter, Anno Dom. 1630. And doth your Lecturer or Lecturers, and every of them observe that Article, and instruction of his Majesty wherein it is provided, that every Lecturer shall before his Lecture, or Sermon, reade Divine Service in his Surplice, and Hood according to his Degree: if you know of any default or neglect hereof, in

not

not obſerving this inſtruction of his Maieſties, or other the lawes Eccleſiaſticall of this kingdome, you are to preſent it, otherwiſe you are likely to anſwer for this your contempt.

24 Item, whether doth any knight or Gentleman within your Pariſh maintaine or keepe any Chaplaine, contrary to the lawes of the land, not being thereunto licenſed by the Biſhop of this Dioceſſe?

25 Item, whether doth your Preacher or Lecturer reade Diuine Seruice, and Miniſter the Sacraments twice a yeere at leaſt in his owne perſon, according to the Canons?

II. Concerning the Church, the Ornaments thereof and the Churches poſſeſſions.

26 Whether haue you in your ſeuerall Churches and Chappels, the whole Bible of the largeſt volume, and the Booke of Common Prayer, as alſo the booke of Homilies ſet forth by his Maieſties authority, all fairly and ſubſtantially bound: a Font of ſtone, ſet up in the ancient vſuall place, a conuenient and decent Communion Table, with a Carpet of ſilke, or ſome other decent ſtuffe continually laid vpon the Table at the time of diuine Seruice, and a faire linnen cloth vpon the ſame, at the time of the receiuing of the holy Communion? And whether is the ſame Table placed in ſuch conuenient ſort within the Chancell or Church, as that the Miniſter may be beſt heard in his prayer and adminiſtration, and that the greateſt number may communicate? And whether is it ſo vſed out of time of diuine Seruice, as is not agreeable to the holy vſe of it: and as by ſitting on it, throwing hats on it, writting on it, or is it abuſed to other prophane vſes? And are the ten Commandements ſet vpon the Eaſt end of your Church or Chappell, where the people may beſt ſee and reade them, and other ſentences of holy Scripture, written on the walles likewiſe for that purpoſe?

27 Item, whether haue you in your ſaid Church or Chappell, a conuenient ſeat for your Miniſter to reade Seruice in, together with a comely Pulpit, ſet vpon a conuenient place, with a decent cloth or cuſhion for the ſame, a comely large Surplice, a faire Communion cup, with a cover of ſiluer and a flagon of ſiluer, tin or pewter, to put the Wine in, whereby it may be ſet vpon the Communion Table, at the time of bleſſing thereof, with all other things and ornaments neceſſary for the celebration of Diuine Seruice and adminiſtration of the Sacraments? And whether haue you a ſtrong cheſt for almes of the poore with three lockes and keies, and another cheſt for keeping of the bookes and ornaments of the Church, and the Regiſter booke? And whether haue you a Regiſter booke in parchment, for Chriſtenings, Weddings, and Burials, and whether the ſame be kept in all points according to the Canons in that behalfe prouided? And whether haue you in your ſaid Church or Chancell a Table ſet, of the degrees wherein by Law men are prohibited to marry?

28 Item,

28 Item, whether are your Church and Chappels, with the Chancels thereof and your Parsonage or Vicarage house, your Parish almes-house and Church-house, in good reparations, and are they imployed to godly and their right holy uses? Is your Church, Chancell and Chappell, decently and comely kept, as well within as without, and the seates well maintained according to the 85. Canon in that behalfe provided? Whether your Church yard be well fenced and kept without abuse: and if not, in whose default the same is, and what the defect or fault is? And whether any person have encroched upon the ground of the Church yard, or whether any person or persons have used any thing or place consecrated to holy use prophanely or wickedly?

29 Item, whether have you the Terrier of all the Glebe Lands, Meddowes, Gardens, Orchards, Houses, Stockes, Implements, Tenements and portions of Tithes (whether within your Parish or without) belonging unto your Parsonage or Vicarage taken by the view of honest men in your said Parish? And whether the said Terrier be laid up in the Bishops Registry, and in whose hands any of them are now? And if you have no Terrier already made in parchment, you the Church wardens and Sidemen, together with your Parson or Vicar, or in his absence, with your Minister, are to make diligent enquiry and presentment of the premisses, and make, subscribe, and signe the said Terrier, as aforesaid.

30 Item, what Legacies have been given to the use of your Church, or poore of your Parish, who have been the Benefactors, and how much have every of them given? what is the summe of the stocke of your Church, and poore at this present, in whose hands is the same, and what security have you for it? and doe you conceive it to be good, is it imployed to their proper best uses, and is a yeerely accompt made thereof, and what is remaining in the hands of the old Church wardens? or have they delivered over to their Successors, together with such writings and other things, as belong to your Church? and are the almes of the Church faithfully distributed to the use of the poore?

III. Schoole-masters.

31 Whether doth any in your Parish take upon him to teach schoole, without license of the Ordinary, and is he conformable to the Religion now established? and doth he bring his scholars to the Church to heare divine Service and Sermons, and doth he instruct his scholars in the grounds of Religion now established in the Church of England? and is he carefull and diligent to benefit his scholars in learning?

IV. Parish Clerkes, and Sextons.

32 Whether have you a fit Parish Clerke, aged twenty yeeres at least, of honest conversation able to reade and write? Whether are his and the Sextons wages paid without fraud, according to ancient custome of your Parish: if not, then by whom are they so defrauded or de-

denied? By whom are they chosen? and whether the said Clerke be approved by the Ordinary: and hath he taken an oath as in such cases is fit and required: and is he diligent in his Office, and serviceable to the Minister, and doth he take upon him to meddle with any thing above his Office, as Churching of women, burying the dead, or such like? and whether doth he exact fees for Marriages and Burials, more than hath been formerly due and accustomed?

33 Item, whether doth your Clerke or sexton keepe the Church cleane, the doores locked: is any thing lost or spoyled in the Church through his default: doth he suffer any unreasonable ringing, or any prophane exercise in your Church? or doth he (when any is passing out of this life) neglect to tole a Bell, having notice thereof?

V. Physicians, Chirurgians, and Midwives.

34 HOw many Physicians, Chirurgians, or Midwives have you in your Parish? How long have they used their severall sciences or offices, and by what Authority? and how have they demeaned themselves therein, and of what skill are they accompted to be in their profession?

VI. Touching the Church-wardens and Sidemen.

35 WHether the Church-wardens, and Quest-men, or Sidemen, from time to time, doe and have done their diligences, in not suffering any idle person to abide either in Church-yard, or Church-porch in service or sermon time, but causing them either to come into the Church to heare diuine seruice, or to depart and not disturbe such as be hearers there? and whether have they, and doe you diligently see the Parishioners duely resort to the Church every sunday and holy-day, and there to remaine during diuine service and sermon? and whether you or your predecessors Church wardens there, suffer any plaies, feasts, drinkings, or any other prophane usages to be kept in your Church, Chappell, or church-yards, or have suffered to your and their uttermost power and indeavour, any person or persons to be tipling or drinking in any Inne or victualling house in your parish, during the time of diuine service or sermon, on sundayes or Holy dayes?

36 Item, whether, and how often have you admitted any to preach within your Church or Chappell, which was not sufficiently licensed? and whether you together with your Minister, have not taken diligent heed that no strangers doe usually resort to your Church, and relinquish their owne, without apparent cause to be approved by the Ordinary?

37 Item, whether have there been provided against every Communion, a sufficient quantity of fine white Bread, and of good and wholesome Wine for the Communicants that shall receiue? and whether that Wine be brought in a cleane and sweet standing pot of pewter, or of other purer metall?

VII. Concerning the Parishioners.

38 WHether is there any of your Parishioners, being sixteen yeeres of age, or upwards, or others lodging or commonly resorting to any house within your Parish, that doe wilfully absent themselves from your Parish Church upon Sundayes or holy-dates, at Morning and Evening Prayers: or who come late to Church, and depart from Church before service be done upon the said dayes: or who doe not reverently behave themselves during the time of divine service, devoutly kneeling when the generall confession of sinnes, the Letany, the ten Commandements, and all prayers and Collects are read, and using all due and totall reverence, when the blessed name of the Lord Iesus Christ is mentioned, and standing up when the Articles of the Beleefe are read, or who doe cover their heads in the Church during the time of divine service, unlesse it be in case of necessity, in which case they may weare a night cap or coyfe? Or who doe give themselves to babling, talking or walking, and are not attentive to the Word preached or read: or reading or praying during the time aforesaid? whether any of your Parish being of sixteene yeeres of age and upwards, do not receive the holy Communion in your Church thrice every yeere, whereof once at Easter, and whether they doe not devoutly kneele at the receiving thereof?

39 Item, whether any of your parishioners, being admonished thereof, doe not send their children, servants and apprentizes to the Minister to be catechised, upon such Sundayes and holy-dayes as are appointed: or whether any of them doe refuse to come: or if they come, refuse to learne the Catechisme set forth in the Booke of Common Prayer?

40 Item, how many of the said Catechismes have been dispersed in your Parish or Chappell, according to the number of such children and servants as can reade, and are to learne the same, according to the late Injunction of your Ordinary, and who they be that have refused to obey that order so enjoyned, and what are their severall names?

41 Item, whether any of your Parish doe entertaine within their house any sojourner, common guests, or other persons, who refuse to frequent Divine service, or receive the holy Communion, as aforesaid? present their names, their qualities or conditions.

42 Item, what Recusant Papists are there in your parish? Or have dwelt or made usuall abode there within the space of two or three yeeres last past, and whether they still dwell or remaine there, or where doe they dwell, or make their abode? present their names, qualities or conditions. And whether keepe they any schoolemaster in their house, which commeth not to Church to heare Divine service, and receive the Communion? What is his name, and how long hath he taught there, or elsewhere?

43 Item, whether doe any of the said popish Recusants labour to seduce and withdraw others from the Religion now established? or instruct their families or children in popish Religion? or refuse to entertaine any,

especially

especially in place of greatest service or trust, but such as concurre with them in their papistry?

44 Item, whether the tuition of the children of any of your parishioners, dying within your parish, be committed to any popish Recusants convict contrary to the Stat. 3. 1ac. cap. 5. and if so, to present and certifie the names both of such children, and of the Tutors or Guardians to whose tuition and education they are committed.

45 Item, how long have the said popish Recusants abstained from divine service, or from the Communion, as aforesaid: Or who have turned Recusants within these foure yeeres last past?

46 Item, whether is there any in your parish that retaine undefaced, or sell, utter or disperse any popish bookes or writings, or other bookes, libels, or writings of any Sectaries, touching the Religion, State or Government Ecclesiasticall of this Kingdome of England, or keepe any ornaments of superstition uncancelled or undefaced?

47 Item, whether have you any in your parish, which heretofore being popish Recusants or Sectaries, have since reformed themselves, and come to Church to heare divine service, and receive the sacraments? If yea, then who they are, and how long time have they so reformed themselves? and whether they still remaine and abide in that conformity?

48 Item, whether is there any in your parish, that refuse to have their children baptized, or themselves to receive the Communion at the hands of your Minister, taking exception against him, and what causes or exceptions doe they alledge? or have any married wives refused to come to Church according to the booke of Common Prayer, to give God thankes after their childe birth, for their safe deliverance? and whether doe any of, or in your parish, refuse to have their children baptized in your Parish Church according to the forme prescribed in the book of Common prayer?

49 Item, whether any in your parish having a preacher to your parson Vicar or Curate, doe absent themselves from his sermons and resort to other places to heare other preachers: or whether any of your parish doe communicate, or baptize their children in any other parish?

50 Item, what persons within your parish, for any offence, contumacy, or crime of Ecclesiasticall conusance, doe stand Excommunicate? present their names, and for what cause they are excommunicated, and how long they have so stood, and what persons and persons doe willingly and usually keepe them company?

51 Item, whether doe any, not being in Orders, execute any Priestly or Ministeriall Office in your Church, Chappell, or Churchyard, and what be their names?

52 Item, whether is there any in your parish, that having heretofore taken upon him the Order of Priesthood, or Deacon, hath since relinquished the same, and lives a Lay-man, neglecting his Vocation?

53 Item, whether hath any person or persons in your parish quarrelled

or strucken, or used any violence to your Minister, or hath strucken or quarrelled with any other person within your Church or Churchyard, or demeaned himselfe disorderly in the Church, by filthy or prophane talke, or any other lewd or immodest behaviour? Or have disturbed the Minister in time of divine service or sermon, or have libelled, or spoken slanderous words against your Minister, to the scandall of his Vocation: or defamed any of his neighbors touching any crime of Ecclesiasticall conusance?

55 Item, whether have any of, or in your parish, without consent of the Ordinary, or other lawfull authority, caused any to doe penance, or to be censured or punished for any matter of Ecclesiasticall conusance, by any Vestry meetings, or otherwise by their owne authority: or have taken any money or commutation for the same, present their names that have done it, and who have been so punished, in what manner and upon what cause?

56 Item, whether any person in your parish doe exercise any trade or labor, buy or sell, or keeps open shops or warehouses upon any sunday or holy day, by themselves, their servants or apprentices, or have otherwise prophaned the said dayes, contrary to the Orders of the Church of England? and whether there be any Inne keepers, Alehouse keepers, Victualers or other persons that permit any persons in their houses to eate, drinke, or play, during the time of divine service or sermon, or reading the Homilies in the forenoone, or afternoone upon these dayes?

57 Item, whether hath the fifth day of November been kept holy, and thanksgiving made to God, for his Majesties and this states happy deliverance, according to the Ordinance in that behalfe? and whether have you in your parish Church or Chappell the bookes in this behalfe set forth and commanded by publique Authority?

58 Item, whether doth any of your Parish hold or frequent any Conventicles or private Congregations, or make or maintaine any constitutions agreed upon in any such assemblies: Or are there any that doe write, or publiquely or privately speake against the booke of Common Praier, or any thing therein contained, or against any of the Articles of Religion, agreed upon Anno 1562, or against the Kings supremacy, in causes Ecclesiasticall, or against the Oath of supremacy, or of Allegiance, as pretending the same to be unlawfull, and not warrantable by the Word of God: or against any of the Rites or Ceremonies of the Church of England now established? or against the government of the Church of England under the Kings most Excellent Majesty, by Archbishops, Bishops, Deanes, Archdeacons, and other Officers of the same affirming, that the same is repugnant to the Word of God, and that the said Ecclesiasticall Officers are not lawfully ordained? Or whether be there any Authors, maintainers, or favourers of heresie or schisme, or that be suspected to be Anabaptists, Libertines, Brownists, of the Family of

Love

Love, or of any other Heresie or schisme: present their names.

59 Item, whether have any in your Parish married within the degrees by Law prohibited: or any Couple in your Parish being lawfully married, live apart one from the other, without due separation of the Law: or any that have been divorced, which keepe company with any other at bed or at board, and when and where they married?

60 Item, whether doe any persons administer the goods of the dead without lawfull authority, or suppresse the last Will of the dead? Or are there in your parish any Wils not yet prooved, or goods of the dead dying intestate left unadministred? By Authority in that behalfe you shall not faile to present the Executors, and all other faulty therein: and also how many persons being possessed of any goods and chattels, have died within your Parish since the yeere 1617.

61 Item, whether doth any withhold the stocke of the Church, or any goods or other things, given to good and charitable uses?

62 Item, whether are your Hospitals and Almes houses, and other such houses and Corporations, founded to good and charitable uses: and the lands, possessions, and goods of the same, ordered and disposed of as they should be: and doe the Masters, Governors, Fellowes, and others of the said Houses and Corporations behave and demeane themselves, according to the godly Ordinances, and statutes of their severall foundations?

63 Item, whether have you any in your parish to your knowledge, or by common fame and report, which have committed adultery, fornication, or incest, or any which have imprudently bragged or boasted, that he or she have lived incontinently with any person or persons whatsoever: or any that hath attempted the chastity of any woman, or solicited any woman to have the carnall knowledge of her body, or which are commonly reputed to be common drunkards, blasphemers of Gods holy Name, common swearers, common slanderers of their neighbors, and sowers of discord, filthy and lasciuous talkers, Usurers, Simoniacall persons, Bawds, or harborers of women with childe which be unmarried, or conveying or suffering them to goe away before they have made satisfaction to the congregation, or any that having heretofore been presented, or suspected of any the aforesaid crimes, have for that cause departed your parish, and are now returned againe? or any which have used any inchantments, sorceries, incantations or witchcrafts, which are not made follow by the statutes of this Realme, or any which have committed any periury in any Ecclesiasticall Court, in an Ecclesiasticall cause, or which have commited any forgery, punishable by the ecclesiasticall lawes, and the procurers and abettors of the said offences? You shall truly present the names of all and singular the said Offenders, and with whom they have committed the said offences, in case they have not been publickely punished to your knowledge for the same crimes?

62 Item, whether have the publike prayers and Fast lately enjoyned by Authority for the pacifying of Gods wrath, and for asswaging the late fearefull Plague, been duely and solemnely performed both by your Minister and parishioners on the dayes and times appointed, as also, the day of Thanksgiuing for Gods mercy, in asswaging that fearefull sickneſſe been religiously obserued, according to those publike formes set forth by Authority, and whether have you the said Bookes so published, as by the same Authority you were commanded?

VIII. Concerning Ecclesiastical Magistrates and Officers.

63 WHether doe you know or have heard of any payment, composition, or agreement, to or with any Ecclesiasticall Magistrate, Iudge or Officer, for winking at, or sparing to punish any person for any offence of Ecclesiasticall conusance, or for suppressing, or concealing of any Recusant, or any other offendor in the cases aforesaid? what summe of money, or other consideration hath been received or promised, by, or to any of them in that respect, by whom and with whom?

64 Item, whether hath any person within your parish paid, or promised any summe of money or other reward for communication of penance for any crime of Ecclesiasticall conusance? If so, then with whom, when, and for what, and how hath the same been imployed?

65 Item, whether are your Ecclesiasticall Iudges and their substitutes, Masters of Arts, or Bachelors of the Law at the least, learned and practised in the Ciuill and Ecclesiasticall Lawes: Men of good life and fame, zealously affected in Religion, and iust, upright in executing their offices? Have they heard any matter of Office privately in their chambers, without their sworne Registers, or their Deputies presence?

66 Item, whether doe you know, or have you heard, that any Ecclesiasticall Iudge, Officer or Minister, hath received or taken any extraordinary fees, or other rewards or promises, by any waies or meanes directly or indirectly, of any person or persons whatsoever, either for the granting of the Administration of the goods and chattels of those that have died intestate, to one before another, or for allotting of larger portions of the goods and chattels of those that have died intestate, to one more then to another, or for allowing large and unreasonable Accompts, made by Executors or Administrators: or for giuing them Quietus est, or discharges, without Inventorie or Accompt, to defraud Creditors, Legataries, or those who are to have portions? and what summes of money doe you know or have you heard, that any Ecclesiasticall Iudge or Officer hath taken out of the state of any dying intestate, upon pretence to bestow the same in pios usus: and how have the same been bestowed?

67 Item, whether hath any Ecclesiasticall Magistrate, Iudge, Officer, or any other, exercising Ecclesiasticall Iurisdiction within this your Diocese, or any Aduocate, Register, Proctor, Clerkes, Apparitors or other

other Minister belonging to the same Ecclesiasticall Courts, exacted or taken by any waies or meanes, directly or indirectly, extraordinary or greater fees then are due and accustomed? and whether is there a Table for the rates of all fees set up in their severall Courts and Offices? and whether have they sent or suffered any processe to goe out of the Ecclesiasticall Courts, otherwise then by the Law they ought: or have they taken upon them the Office of Informers or promoters to the said Courts, or any other way abused themselves in their Offices, contrary to the Law and Canons in that behalfe provided?

68. Item, what number of Apparators have every severall Judge Ecclesiasticall; and wherein, and in what manner is the Countrie overburdened by them: and wherein have they caused or summoned any to appeare in the said Courts, without a presentment or Citation first had? Or whether have they threatned any to prosecute them in the said Courts if they would not give them some rewards; and what bribes in that behalfe have they taken?

If you know of any other default or crime of Ecclesiasticall conusance, you are to present the same by vertue of your Oathes.

The Minister of every Parish may, and ought to joyne in presentment with the Churchwardens and Sidemen: and if they will not present, the Minister may and ought himselfe present the defaults and crimes aforesaid, and there must be severall presentments made to every severall Article: and the Minister, Churchwardens, and sworne men are to meet and conferre about the said presentment, and answering of every of the aforesaid Articles.

FINIS.